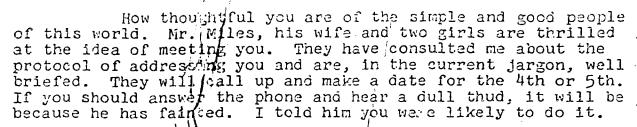
6/24/61

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Dear Mr. Fresident,



My commediatement speech turned out to be a great success because it was to be on a dull subject -- "The Political Responsibilities of Young ditizens," of all things -- and I hit un a happy device to deal with it. We have a very beautiful bit of country road leading to our village which is notoriously defaced by motorists throwing beer cans and all sorts of trash along the roadside, despite tigns threatening horrendous penalties. I pointed out that the people who did this might technically be citizens but in reality they treated the home country as pigs treat their pen. Fut, I said, within the week I had seen truck loads of boy scouts, armed with shopping bags, picking up this trash and making land beautiful once more. They were learning the indispensable foundation of citizenship -- to love some part of this land with all their heart and treat it with disciplined respect and tendar care.

Apparently that meant something to the whole audience, children and parents, which generalities about patriotism and duty did not. They gave me a great reception afterwards. On the whole, an interesting evening came out of an expected dull one.

I am working hard on plans for a Berlin crisis toward the end of the year. It is grim business, but I think that the Joint Chiefs and the State Department have now got, the idea and that we shall now make some progress. TheseChiefs are hearly as good as yours; nor are their staffs. In fact I am shocked -- and I think the Sec of Defense is, also -- at the shoddy work which comes out of the military. For what we spend on them we deserve something better than what we get.

to meet

Kern'edy's performance worries and puzzles me. Somehow, he does siceed in being a President, but only in giving the appearance of one, though he did do well with Khrushchev. Both Kennedy all Dean Rusk seem to me to be better when they make speeches than when they act. We have heard a lot about the necessity to make sacrifices but we haven't been asked to make any. There are plenty to make if the Administration would just get started. Time is running out.

With warmest greetings.

/s/ Dean.

June 24, 1961. Achoren Pp/ Bix 166 / Horsen - Truman Correspondency 1961 )